

Have a safe HALLOWEEN

Dear Parents,

Halloween is almost here, and that means our neighborhoods will soon fill with ghosts, goblins, ghouls and other scary things that go bump in the night. Children love this fun and exciting holiday, but it is important to use caution to keep our kids safe. With that in mind, I hope these tips will ensure your family has a safe and Happy Halloween.

Dave Hildenbrand



Safety Tips for a Happy Halloween

SMALL CHILDREN SHOULD NEVER GO TRICK-OR-TREATING BY THEMSELVES. Make sure a responsible older sibling or adult is with them at all times.

If older children go trick-or-treating without an adult, make sure they stick together in a group and only go to familiar neighborhoods. Tell them to **STAY IN POPULATED, WELL-LIT AREAS** and use a sidewalk if available.

Tell your child to **NEVER ENTER A STRANGER'S HOME, AND NEVER CONSUME UNWRAPPED FOOD ITEMS.**

Serve your kids a filling meal before trick-or-treating so they won't be tempted to eat candy before they bring it home for you to check. **HAVE AN ADULT THOROUGHLY INSPECT ALL CANDY.**

CUT LARGE EYE-HOLES IN MASKS. Many store-bought masks restrict vision making it difficult to see obstacles. Make sure costumes do not restrict movement.

CLOSELY SUPERVISE CHILDREN WHEN CARVING PUMPKINS.

ATTACH A GLOW STICK OR REFLECTIVE TAPE TO YOUR CHILDREN'S COSTUMES to make them more visible to drivers.

If your child is carrying a prop make sure the **EDGES ARE SMOOTH AND FLEXIBLE ENOUGH NOT TO CAUSE INJURY.**

ALWAYS CARRY A FLASHLIGHT WITH FRESH BATTERIES.

BASIC EVERYDAY SAFETY, such as not getting into cars or talking to strangers, and to look both ways before crossing streets, will help keep them safe as they trick-or-treat.

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